

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

2. Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mrs. Keiko Ichiye on 7/25/08.

3. Claims 17-24 have been amended as follows:

17. (Currently Amended) ~~Logic~~ A tangible, physical computer-readable medium encoded with logic for connecting an endpoint to a conference call, the logic ~~embodied in a medium and~~ operable to:

associate a caller identifier with a conference call identifier by mapping the caller identifier to the conference call identifier, the caller identifier corresponding to an endpoint, the conference call identifier corresponding to a conference call;

receive a call from the endpoint associated with the caller identifier;

determine from the mapping and independent of any conference identifier information sent by the endpoint that the caller identifier is associated with the conference call identifier of the conference call;

initiate connection of the endpoint to the conference call in order to connect the endpoint to the conference call;

after a disconnection with the endpoint, receive another call from the endpoint;

determine from the mapping and independent of any conference identifier information sent by the endpoint that the caller identifier is associated with the conference call identifier of the conference call; and

initiate connection of the endpoint to the conference call in order to reconnect the endpoint to the conference call.

18. (Currently Amended) The tangible, physical computer-readable medium encoded with the logic of Claim 17, the logic operable to associate the caller identifier with the conference call identifier by:

receiving an initial call from the endpoint;

associating the caller identifier with the conference call identifier in response to receiving the initial call; and

providing the endpoint an initial connection to the conference call.

19. (Currently Amended) The tangible, physical computer-readable medium encoded with the logic of Claim 17, the logic operable to associate the caller identifier with the conference call identifier by:

receiving conference call information comprising the caller identifier and the conference call identifier; and

associating the caller identifier with the conference call identifier.

20. (Currently Amended) The tangible, physical computer-readable medium encoded with the logic of Claim 17, the logic operable to associate the caller identifier with the conference call identifier by storing the conference call identifier associated with the caller identifier in a conference call table.

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21. (Currently Amended) The tangible, physical computer-readable medium encoded with the logic of Claim 17, the logic operable to initiate connection of the endpoint to the conference call in order to connect the endpoint to the conference call by:

determining whether the conference call is in session; and

initiating connection of the endpoint to the conference call if the conference call is in session.

22. (Currently Amended) The tangible, physical computer-readable medium encoded with the logic of Claim 17, the logic operable to initiate connection of the endpoint to the conference call in order to connect the endpoint to the conference call by:

determining if there is a request for connection, the request associated with the endpoint; and

connecting the endpoint with the conference call if there is the request for connection.

23. (Currently Amended) The tangible, physical computer-readable medium encoded with the logic of Claim 17, the logic operable to initiate connection of the endpoint to the conference call in order to connect the endpoint to the conference call by:

determining if the endpoint is authorized to connect with the conference call; and

connecting the endpoint with the conference call if the endpoint is authorized to connect with the conference call.

24. (Currently Amended) The tangible, physical computer-readable medium encoded with the logic of Claim 17, the logic operable to initiate connection of the endpoint to the conference call in order to connect the endpoint to the conference call by announcing a caller associated with the caller identifier prior to connecting the endpoint with the conference call.

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